

The Savory Wild Mushroom. A Pacific Northwest Guide. By MARGARET MCKENNY (with the collaboration of D. E. Stuntz). xiv + 133 pp., 1 text-figure, 33 black-and-white and 48 color photographs. University of Washington Press, Seattle. 1962. \$3.95. Paperback.

One of the most welcome aspects of this attractive handbook of mushrooms is the inclusion of a brief, up-to-date chapter on mushroom poisons, written by Dr. Varro E. Tyler, Jr., Professor of Pharmacognosy, University of Washington. For this reason, this book should be of particular interest to physicians; it provides a convenient source of information on types of poisons, symptoms, and treatment, as well as descriptions and illustrations of the most dangerous of the poisonous mushrooms. Although subtitled "A Pacific Northwest Guide," this handbook should be of interest to any collector, because it includes a large number of more or less cosmopolitan species.

Following a brief introduction to the nature of mushrooms and instructions for their collection, the species are organized into three groups—edible mushrooms, poisonous mushrooms, and nonpoisonous mushrooms to be avoided. Most of the common edible and poisonous species are included. Enough precautions about collecting, determining, and eating are mentioned to make it possible to recommend this book, with no serious reservations, to the amateur collector as a reliable handbook. For the gourmet, there is a chapter of tantalizing recipes for cooking mushrooms.—ISABELLE TAVARES, Department of Botany, University of California, Berkeley.

NOTES AND NEWS

The year 1962 marked the passing of two noted botanists, John James Thornber, who died in Tucson, Arizona, on November 22 at the age of ninety, and Joseph F. C. Rock, who died in Honolulu, Hawaii, on December 5 at the age of seventy-nine. Dr. Thornber, who joined the staff of the University of Arizona in 1901, was a botanist of international repute and was Dean of the College of Agriculture at the University of Arizona from 1922 to 1928. His intimate knowledge of the Arizona flora has not been surpassed. Dr. Rock was Professor of Botany at the University of Hawaii from 1911 to 1919. He spent many years exploring in remote parts of southwestern China. In addition to his contributions as a plant explorer, he was a noted linguist, cartographer, anthropologist, and ornithologist. Many of his plant discoveries were introduced into cultivation through the University of California Botanical Garden. His beautifully prepared specimens are deposited in herbaria throughout the world.

The *Segundo Congreso Mexicano de Botánica*, organized by the *Sociedad Botánica de México*, will be held in San Luis Potosí from September 17 to 20, 1963. Queries concerning the Congress may be addressed to Biol. Fernando Medellín, Apartado Postal 458, San Luis Potosí, S.L.P., México. The highly successful first Congress was held in Mexico City in October, 1959. Among the 172 participants were 26 from the United States.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS. With my retirement from the University of California in June, 1963, I am also retiring from the Editorial Board of *Madroño*, a post that I have held for twenty-nine years. In anticipation of this time, I am asking all contributors to send new manuscripts to Dr. John H. Thomas, Division of Systematic Biology, Stanford University, California. Dr. Thomas will take over the duties of the editorship beginning with the July, 1963, issue of *Madroño*.—HERBERT L. MASON, Chairman, Editorial Board.